

Application No. 10/811,625

a. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (Currently amended). A hand operated tool for extracting an elongated object that is embedded in the surface of a body, the tool comprising:

- a) an elongated, movable first handle member comprising a first, upper end portion divided into two matching legs, the legs being separated by an opening;
- b) a corresponding second handle member comprising a first, upper end extending through the opening between a first and a second one of the legs, the second handle member being pivotally attached to the first leg and the second leg, the second handle member comprising a first jaw member at its first end;
- c) a floating head portion pivotally attached to the first and second legs, the floating head portion comprising a second jaw member and an adjacent, upper curved edge; and
- d) two matching lever bars, each being pivotally connected at one end portion of the lever bar to the second handle member and at an opposite end portion of the lever bar to the floating head portion, the lever bars facing one another from opposite sides of the tool; and

wherein the second jaw member is engaged against the first jaw member when the tool is in a closed position, and disengaged from the first jaw member when the tool is in an open position; and wherein an upper, curved edge of the floating head portion is flattened and oriented perpendicular to the second jaw member.

~~first jaw member when the tool is in an open position.~~

2 (Original). The tool according to Claim 1, further comprising a claw connected to the upper, curved edge of the floating head portion at an end opposite the

second jaw member, the claw comprising two matching prongs, each prong having a flattened, pointed end.

3 (Original). The tool according to Claim 2, wherein the first and second jaw members each comprise serrated teeth.

4 (Currently amended). The A hand operated tool according to Claim 2, for extracting an elongated object that is embedded in the surface of a body, the tool comprising:

a) an elongated, movable first handle member comprising a first, upper end portion divided into two matching legs, the legs being separated by an opening;

b) a corresponding second handle member comprising a first, upper end extending through the opening between a first and a second one of the legs, the second handle member being pivotally attached to the first leg and the second leg, the second handle member comprising a first jaw member at its first end;

c) a floating head portion pivotally attached to the first and second legs, the floating head portion comprising a second jaw member and an adjacent, upper curved edge;

d) two matching lever bars, each being pivotally connected at one end portion of the lever bar to the second handle member and at an opposite end portion of the lever bar to the floating head portion, the lever bars facing one another from opposite sides of the tool; and

e) a claw connected to the upper, curved edge of the floating head portion at an end opposite the second jaw member, the claw comprising two matching prongs, each prong having a flattened, pointed end;

wherein the second jaw member is engaged against the first jaw member when the tool is in a closed position, and disengaged from the first jaw member when the tool is in an open position; and

wherein the curved edge of the floating head portion is flattened and oriented perpendicular to the second jaw member.

5 (Currently amended). The tool according to Claim [[3]] 4, wherein a first one of the teeth on the first jaw member opposes a corresponding first one of the teeth on the second jaw member.

6 (Currently amended). The tool according to Claim [[1]] 4, further comprising a main pivot pin which passes through corresponding holes in the legs of the first handle member and the second handle member.

7 (Original). The tool according to Claim 6, further comprising a second pivot pin which passes through corresponding holes in the ends of the legs of the first handle member and a forward section of the floating head portion.

8 (Original). The tool according to Claim 7, further comprising a third pivot pin which connects through corresponding holes in the second handle member and a lower end of each of the lever bars.

9 (Original). The tool according to Claim 8, further comprising a fourth pivot pin which passes through corresponding holes in an upper end of each of the lever bars and a rear section of the floating head portion.

10 (Original). The tool according to Claim 9, wherein the distance between the main pivot pin and the second pivot pin, and between the third pivot pin and the fourth pivot pin, are substantially equal to one another.

11 (Original). The tool according to Claim 9, wherein the distance between the main pivot pin and the third pivot pin, and between the second and fourth pivot pins, are substantially equal to one another, thus forming a parallelogram.

12 (Original). The tool according to Claim 5, wherein the first and second legs of the first handle member each have a curved end portion, the curved end portion being pivotally attached to the floating head portion.

13 (Original). The tool according to Claim 11, wherein the pivot pins are pivotable rivets.

14 (Original). The tool according to Claim 11, wherein the jaw members maintain a parallel relationship to one another in both the open and closed positions of the tool.

15 (Original). The tool according to Claim 11, wherein the length of the handle section is between about three and six times the width of the head section.

16 (Original). The tool according to Claim 11, wherein the matching first and second legs of the first handle member each have a curved end portion, which is pivotally attached to the floating head portion; and the first and second handle members are bowed.

17 (Currently amended). A hand operated tool for extracting an elongated object that is embedded in the surface of a body, the tool comprising:

- a) an elongated, movable first handle member comprising a first, upper end portion divided into two matching legs, the legs being separated by an opening;
- b) a corresponding second handle member comprising a first, upper end extending through the opening between a first and a second one of the legs, the second handle member being pivotally attached to the first leg and the second leg, the second handle member comprising a first jaw member at its first end;
- c) a floating head portion pivotally attached to the first and second legs, the floating head portion comprising a second jaw member and an adjacent, upper curved edge;
- d) two matching lever bars, each being pivotally connected at one end portion of the lever bar to the second handle member and at an opposite end portion of the lever bar to the floating head portion, the lever bars facing one another from opposite sides of the tool; and

e) a claw continuous with the upper, curved edge of the floating head portion at an end opposite the second jaw member; and

wherein the curved edge of the floating head portion is flattened and oriented perpendicular to the second jaw member; and wherein the second jaw member is engaged against the first jaw member when the tool is in a closed position, and disengaged from the first jaw member when the tool is in an open position.

18 (Original). The tool according to Claim 17, wherein the claw comprises two matching prongs, each prong having a flattened, pointed end.

19 (Original). The tool according to Claim 18, wherein the first and second jaw members each comprise serrated teeth; and wherein the jaw members maintain a parallel relationship to one another in both the open and closed positions of the tool.

20 (Original). The tool according to Claim 17, further comprising a main pivot pin which passes through corresponding holes in the legs of the first handle member and the second handle member; and a second pivot pin which passes through corresponding holes in the ends of the legs of the first handle member and a forward section of the floating head portion.